

# HARVEST EST HOPE

*Harvest  
Hope*  
AFRICA

*Annual Report 2023*





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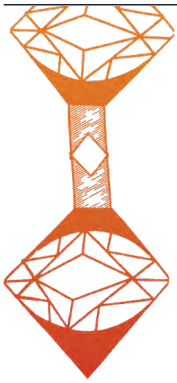
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**What extraordinary work you are doing on the ground in Africa**

**SUPPORTER**



# BRINGING HOPE TODAY

*Harvest Hope Africa equips, transforms, and empowers disadvantaged people in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania.*

*We relieve poverty through education and training.*

## WE SUPPORT

- ◆ A primary school in a remote part of Tanzania
- ◆ Sewing and business training program in the Democratic Republic of Congo for young victims of sexual violence
- ◆ A co-operative graduate program for students to begin their own sewing business

## THIS YEAR WE HAVE

### *In the Democratic Republic of Congo*

- ◆ Continued sewing and business training programs
- ◆ Resourced a co-operative with mentorship, quality equipment and rented premises for our graduating students to start their own business
- ◆ Gifted graduating students sewing machine kits to begin their own business
- ◆ Provided food and clean water to vulnerable people

### *In Tanzania*

- ◆ Provided salaries for teachers and administration staff
- ◆ Resourced the school with teaching and learning materials
- ◆ Purchased another water tank to provide a clean water source for the students and teachers at school
- ◆ Supported an entrepreneurship program for vulnerable mothers of the students

# Changing LIVES



# OUR STORY



*Harvest Hope Africa provides opportunities to build hope for vulnerable people. Patrick and Rebecca, founders and directors, are passionate about bringing hope, restoration and transformation.*

Having lived and worked in Africa for many years, they bring significant knowledge and experience. Now based in Australia, they established Harvest Hope Africa in 2019, to facilitate others joining the journey of providing opportunities for vulnerable people.

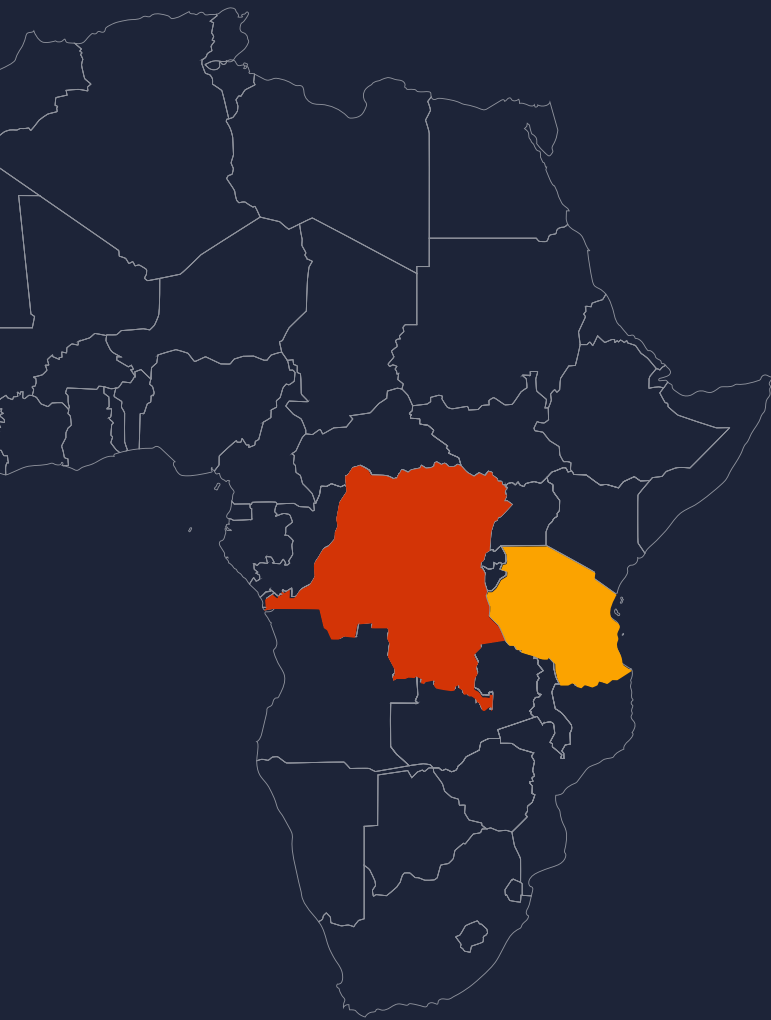


Born and raised in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Patrick witnessed the country's long history of conflict, political upheaval and instability growing up. As an adult, he lived and worked in multiple countries in Africa. An ardent believer in the power of individual action, Patrick looks to give people who are struggling today the belief in a better tomorrow. Patrick focused his work in 1990–2012 on training leaders and working with charities to bring reconciliation and hope. He spent six years supporting the recovery of communities post the Rwandan Genocide. Patrick's formal training includes community development and education, and he fluently speaks many African languages.

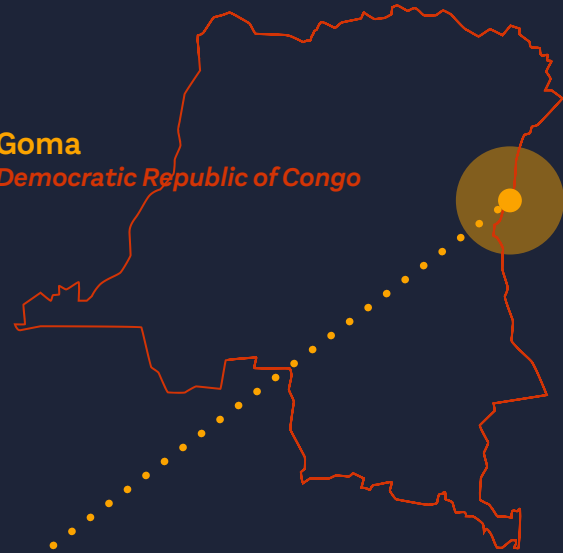


As a child, growing up in Australia, Rebecca was inspired by the work of charities providing support, and promised herself that one day, she would enable transformative change in the lives of people who needed it in Africa. Patrick met Rebecca in Tanzania, where she lived and worked as a teacher trainer for nine years. During her time in Tanzania, Rebecca travelled to many African countries and through local connections and personal experience, developed a deep understanding of the needs of impoverished people in Africa. Rebecca's formal training is in education, with over 15 years of educational leadership experience.

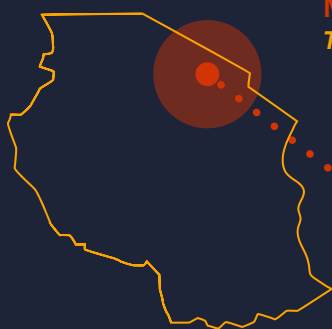
In 2012, Patrick and Rebecca moved to Australia with their children. Their local African connections led to Harvest Hope Africa's areas of commitment. Donations to Harvest Hope Africa fund capacity-building initiatives. These programs enable the individual to become self-sufficient, thereby creating sustainable change for the individual and their community and enabling Harvest Hope Africa to maximise their reach and impact.



**Goma**  
Democratic Republic of Congo



**Masai**  
Tanzania



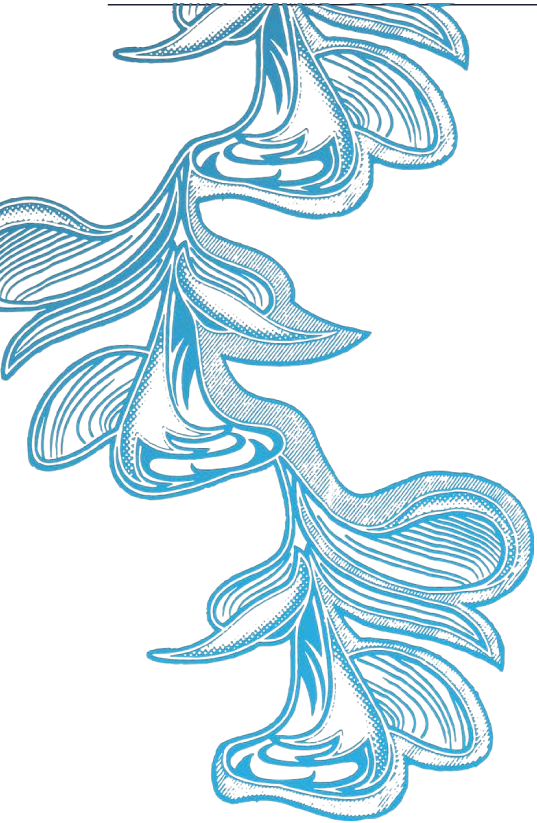
*Patrick and Rebecca have been deeply moved by the encouragement, assistance and of course, donations, provided by their supporters in Australia and around the world.*

In the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, Harvest Hope Africa's projects are in the eastern city of **Goma**, which has faced long standing civil war. Amongst many of the innocent victims are girls and young women. Their opportunities to access education have been affected and tragically, the experience of sexual violence has been far too common. This often leaves girls and young women alone and desperate. Alongside a locally registered charity, Harvest Hope Africa invests in training-based programs to provide a better future for these young women and their babies.

Harvest Hope Africa also works in an isolated **Masai area of Tanzania near Arusha**, where accessing quality education nearby is not possible. The families of the school live in traditional housing in the Longido district, with access to employment, health services and clean water, difficult. The school was founded with a vision to empower the community and improve quality of life by making education accessible.

# BUILDING Capacity





# HOW WE WORK

*Our management team includes highly respected professionals with experience in international development, violence redress, human rights, finance, project management and education.*

We work co-operatively with locally registered organisations in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania, to ensure transparency and accountability, drawing on strong local knowledge and expertise.

Our programs director and project managers on the ground in Africa, bring decades of leadership experience. Our Africa programs director, Gentil Kasongo, has a master's degree in human rights, a law degree and many years experience in the Great Lakes Region as a consultant in issues of justice and human rights. Gentil works closely with Patrick to supervise our two project managers; Daniel Kalimbiro, in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Amani Rukyaa, in Tanzania. Gentil and Patrick work directly with the project managers to design projects, give clear directions regarding expenditure of finances and operational guidance. Rebecca works with Patrick and the project managers to ensure due diligence is followed as well as providing educational and leadership advice.



**Patrick Lubilanji**  
CEO



**Gentil Kasongo**  
Programs Director



**Daniel Kalimbiro**  
Project Manager, DRC



**Rebecca Lubilanji**  
COO



**Amani Rukyaa**  
Project Manager, Tanzania





*Harvest Hope Africa has Deductible Gift Receipt status, granted by the Australian Taxation Office, making donations over \$2 tax deductible.*

## STRUCTURE

Harvest Hope Africa is Company Limited by Guarantee, with a Constitution that defines the organisation’s mission, purposes, and powers.

Harvest Hope Africa is registered with Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC) as a Public Benevolent Institution and is accountable to the ACNC’s External Conduct Standards. The standards cover:

- ◆ Activities and control of resources (including funds)
- ◆ Annual review of overseas activities and record keeping
- ◆ Anti-fraud and anti-corruption
- ◆ Protection of vulnerable individuals

Harvest Hope Africa is governed by a voluntary Board of Directors. The board comprises of 6 members, each with their own international aid experience and complementary professional skills.



**Sindhu Sundarakumar**  
*Board Chair*



**Pascar Chitsaka**  
*Deputy Board Chair*



**Denis Zimba**  
*Treasurer*



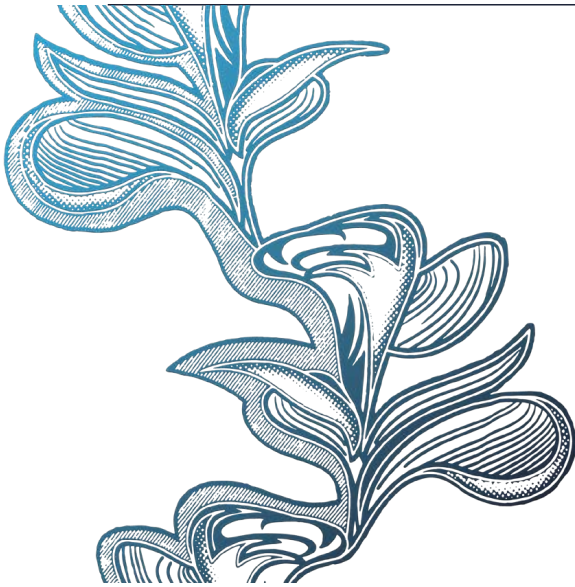
**Patrick Lubilanji**  
*Director*



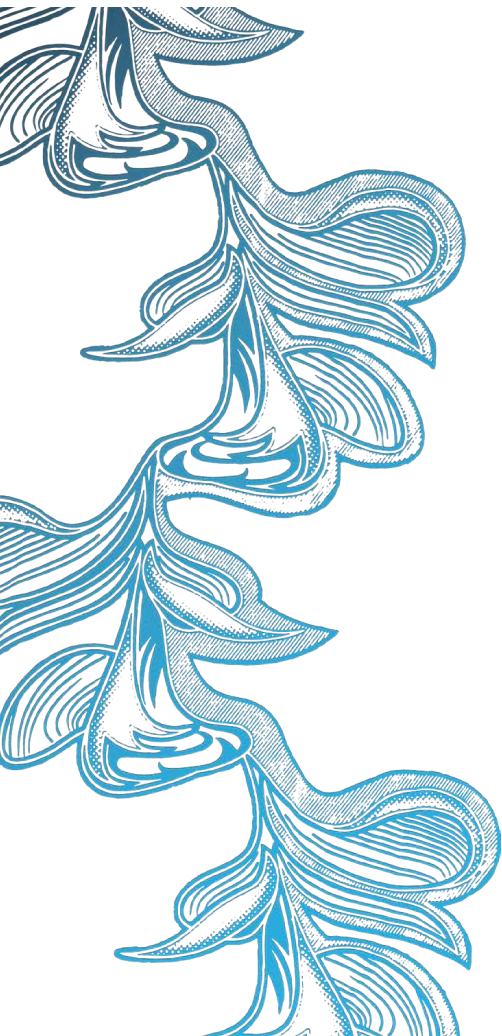
**Rebecca Lubilanji**  
*Secretary, Public Officer*



**Eugene Tshibangu**  
*Director*



*Thanks to the generosity of our donors, management team and volunteers, we have facilitated bringing hope in the lives of the women and children we serve.*



# STRATEGIC GROWTH

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Harvest Hope Africa has continued to maximise impact and develop its programs this fiscal year. This would not have been possible without the commitment from our donors, volunteers, board and management team on the ground in Africa.

Harvest Hope Africa is a young organization with strong foundations. We have continued to see real growth this fiscal year despite the economic challenges that surround us. The programs have proven successful, our team is getting bigger, and our budget continues to grow.

As a Board, we set an ambitious target for financial income in 2022-2023 to allow us to achieve all we planned for both our projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania. I am pleased to report that due to our committed donors, we not only hit that target, but surpassed it. I acknowledge our Board for their hard work and determination to carry out the vision. The team worked tirelessly with our partners in Australia and in Africa to achieve education and transformation.

I would like to thank our founders, Patrick and Rebecca Lubilanji, for their vision and dedication to bringing hope and restoration through the work of Harvest Hope Africa. It was an honour to fill the position of Board Chair for the last 18 months and support this inspiring work. As I hand over this role to Pascar Chitsaka for the next fiscal year, I know the work will continue to be transformative in the lives of many.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, management team and volunteers we have facilitated bringing hope, restoration and transformation in the lives of the women and children we help. The Board is thrilled with the impact and growth in 2022-2023, and confident this has placed us well to continue to provide hope for the people we are serving in the coming year.

**Sindhu Sundarakumar**  
*Board Chair*



# CONTINUED GROWTH

*Our programs have proven to be effective, bringing hope, restoration and significant transformation to displaced, abused and abandoned people.*



## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

I am proud to report that our operations over 2022-2023 have been extremely successful. Our programs have proven to be effective, bringing hope, restoration and transformation to displaced, abused and abandoned people. The programs are becoming renown in the communities we work to be incredible outreaches. This year we have continued to see growth in both impact and finances and we thank our team on the ground in Africa, both our employees and volunteers, and our community here in Australia for making this possible.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, 40 students have engaged in our sewing training program, learning the skills of tailoring and running a small business. The Congolese government has acknowledged the importance and quality of our training program and approved it as a recognised avenue for certification, and so our students recently sat their national, government-led exams, to receive their vocational certificate. They are currently on work placements to gain further experience in running their own sewing business. The students will soon graduate, receiving a sewing machine kit gift to support their transition to independence. I congratulate each student for the immense courage demonstrated throughout their study. They are now in a position to begin their own businesses and provide for their young families.

Thanks to the witness of our previous cohorts on the success of our programs and their professional contributions to their local community, the wider community have seen the benefits of our training. As a result, there is a high demand for our programs. We have now maximised our abilities with our current funding and are working to grow our donations so we can expand and offer alternative vocational training in Congo.

Our sewing co-operative continues in Congo as a safe place for our graduating students to work and begin their own business should they wish to stay in Goma. We provide rented premises, mentorship and quality equipment to use. Our members have increased visibility through the co-operative and are working to grow their businesses.

In Tanzania we focused our efforts on supporting an isolated primary school, providing education for

55 vulnerable children in Masailand. We provided salaries, access to clean water on site, food, and teaching and learning resources. We have resourced an attached training centre for vulnerable mothers of the students, where they gain entrepreneurship training.

*I particularly want to highlight our team of volunteers on the ground who work tirelessly to ensure our projects are implemented.*

We honour these volunteers and are thankful. Our team of volunteers in Africa display unwavering commitment to our students and the programs that support their transformation. In particular, I thank Gentil Kasongo, our Programs Director in Africa, Daniel Kalimbiro, our Programs Manager in Congo, and Amani Rukyaa, our incoming Programs Manager in Tanzania, who generously donate their time and professional skills to our work.

Meanwhile, in Australia it has been an opportunity to strengthen ties between our volunteer and donor community to our projects in Africa, and provide ways for our local community to be a part of the impact of our work. You can read more about these initiatives in our **highlights** section of our report. We are so grateful for our Australian community; for those who have helped with fundraising events and made one-off or regular donations. This work continues because of your partnership. Thank you for standing with us and giving the voiceless a better future. Lives are being transformed because of our growing and faithful donor community.

Harvest Hope Africa is a young charity with a significant future. We look forward to continuing the remarkable growth and transformation for vulnerable people we have seen this year into our next fiscal year.

**Patrick Lubilnji**  
CEO



# Lives

**TRANSFORMED**



# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

*We have seen significant impact through our projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania.*

*Thank you all for being a part of this.*



**10**

PEOPLE EMPLOYED  
AS LEADERS  
IN THEIR COMMUNITY



**50**

YOUNG LADIES GIFTED  
A SEWING MACHINE

**210**

CHILDREN EDUCATED



**65**

ACCESSING  
A CO-OPERATIVE

**3**

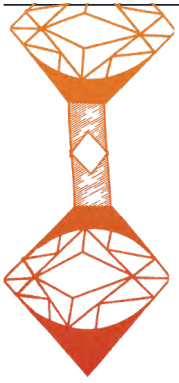
SPONSORED  
UNIVERSITY PLACEMENTS



**140**



YOUNG LADIES GAINED  
SEWING TRAINING



*Participating in this sewing course has changed my future. I have found happiness again and now know we will be ok. I can provide for my family and make sure they have a good life.*

**LOLA**  
Student

# DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

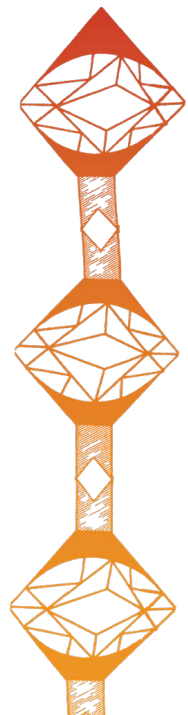
## SEWING TRAINING PROGRAM, GOMA

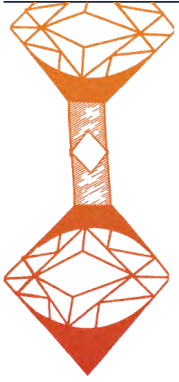
This year our fourth intake of students participated in our sewing training program. Our students; teenage girls with a background of sexual violence and consequential babies, have displayed great courage as they progressed through our sewing training program. This did not come without its struggles. These young women continue to battle trauma and look after their babies, when they themselves are still maturing. **40 young women managed to learn a new trade and eventually, pass their exams.** Their commitment and resilience means they will soon graduate, celebrating a year of learning and increased independence.

Graduating students are invited to join our *co-operative program*. This facility is especially helpful for students who live in and around Goma, where they can access continued mentorship, professional feedback, quality equipment and a safe place to work as they build their business.

***"I didn't think I could learn how to sew like this. I can now make a range of clothes and my customers are happy. I am excited about how I can grow my business."***

**CO-OPERATIVE MEMBER**





***Being fed while we study is a blessing. Without this we wouldn't eat during the day. It helps us to focus on our learning and feed our babies.***

**STUDENT**

***We acknowledge the importance of our food program.***

Without it our students were struggling to feed themselves, and as a result struggling to breastfeed their babies. Our food program enables our students to come together at lunch time to eat a nutritious meal. This improves student attendance, health, focus, and learning.

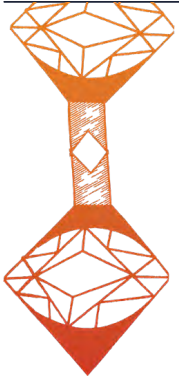


***“We are achieving extraordinary things here. These students had no hope. Because of our program they are gaining confidence and realizing their worth once again. The transformation I witness makes all the hard work worth it.”***

**DANIEL KALIMBIRO**  
*Project Manager*

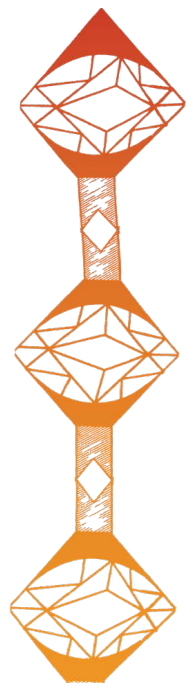






*I've never been told it is okay to talk about what I have suffered. Going through that process has helped me recover and find a way to move forward. I am so grateful for this opportunity.*

**TSHIBA**  
Student



## PSYCHOLOGICAL THERAPY

*To support our students' wellbeing development, we offer psychological therapy.*

Students come with significant background trauma. Our psychologist, Norbert, comes once a week and is available to students who would like to have 1:1 sessions. We have prioritised this service for the younger students and those who have suffered more complex trauma.

Norbert also runs group sessions for the students focusing on common wellbeing issues. Host families are also invited to be involved in special sessions so they can learn how to be of greater support to our students in their home environment.



# Lives Transformed

*We have a small group of students highlighted with leadership potential whom we have sponsored to attend university. They are progressing well and we are so proud of their determination and success to date.*



## **ELIZABETH**

*Elizabeth is in her final year of a fashion diploma.*

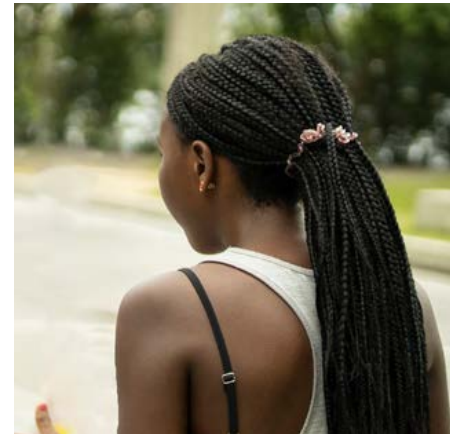
She showed particular talent in our first intake of students. Elizabeth entered the program because she came from an extremely poor family that could not afford to send her to school. Her trainers expressed she had real talent and suggested we send her to university. What a success story.



## **JACQUES**

*Jacques is someone Patrick met on a past trip to Congo.*

At the age of 3, during the civil war, Jacques was orphaned. The perpetrators of his parent's death were successful in attacking Jacques with machetes, which he survived with major scarring. He has been in the same orphanage his entire life. We were able to offer Jacques a scholarship to study Community Development. He is in his final year of study.



## **'KATERINE'**

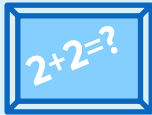
*Finally, we have Katerine (pseudonym). Katerine has been with us for many years.*

We originally met her as an 11 year old orphan with aids who wound up at the rape crisis centre. Patrick and Rebecca agreed to find her a host family and send her back to school. After many years of support and medical intervention, Katerine is well and has graduated high school. We are making her dream of studying at University come true.

**OUR FOCUS OF SUPPORT HAS BEEN TO:**



**Provide consistent salaries for teachers and support staff**



**Provide teaching and learning resources**



**Offer further training to teachers**



**Introduce a food program for the students**



**Provide access to clean water**

# TANZANIA

## EBENEZA PRIMARY SCHOOL

We partner with a remote Primary School in the Longido region of Tanzania. The families are from the Masai tribe, living in traditional housing in nearby villages. Without this independent primary school, these students would walk hours to reach the closest school. The school takes students in their first year of schooling and has around 55 students.

The cost of living continues to grow in Tanzania and so this fiscal year we have increased teacher wages. We have also welcomed our new project manager Amani Rukiyaa, an accountant with significant experience in working with international charities based in Tanzania. Amani's structured approach to leading places the school in good position for future growth.





*I am thrilled with the progress made this year.*

*Our children are happy and are learning, this is something to celebrate.*

**AMANI RUKYAA,**  
TANZANIAN PROJECT MANAGER

## **FOOD PROGRAM**

A key strategy to provide an environment for the students to be happy and learn well is our food program. The results of this program have been improved health, wellbeing and learning of both students and staff. Over the year, we have observed student's nutrition improve, and joy build. This is an essential building block to learning.

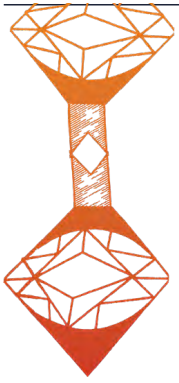
***"Our families struggle to feed their children. Thanks to our food program, our students' physical and mental health has improved."***

**FIELD EDUCATOR**

## **ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM**

We provide an Entrepreneurship Training Program to support vulnerable mothers of the school community who have been abandoned or widowed.

The women learn basic business and entrepreneurship skills as well as specific skills, including soap making. The women also learn about issues of health, including hygiene. This is a small program with significant potential to make an enormous impact in the lives of many more families in need.



# AUSTRALIA

*We are so thankful for our community, who provide financial donations, and volunteer their time and skills.*

*You are changing to course of history, I want to be a part of making a difference*

**HANNAH,  
DONOR**

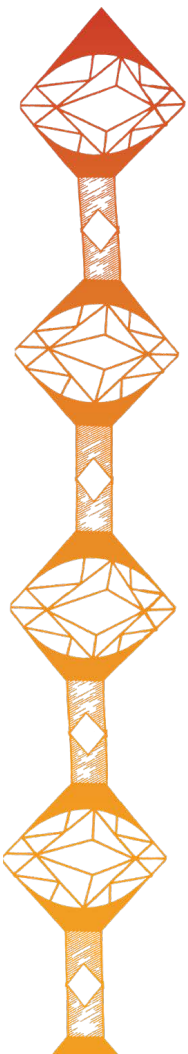
It is because of this support that we have sent increased funds to our projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania. Without this commitment, we would not have achieved the reported impact in the last 12 months.

We welcome our new donors this fiscal year. It is wonderful to have you join our community and we thank you for being a part of our important work.

It has also been a blessing for some one-time donors to decide to give regularly. This allows us to budget well and plan for improved programs.

***"We understand the certainty that giving regularly brings. We want to facilitate the charity's work and enable you to plan well. Setting up automatic regular payments is one way I can help."***

**BRUCE, DONOR**





**GREENROOM**  
STRATEGIC  
advise. create. beyond.

*We'd like to acknowledge and thank our cooperate sponsor,*

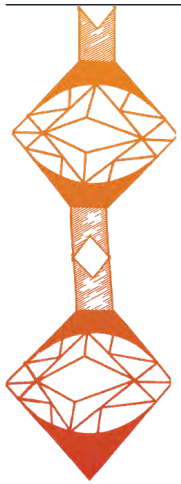
***Greenroom Strategic***

*whose sponsorship continues to enable us to  
make significant inroads into our programs  
in the Democratic Republic of Congo.*

*Your commitment to our work and generosity in finances  
and expertise in the field facilitates our success.*

*“It was a privilege to recently celebrate Harvest  
Hope Africa (HHA) upon 4 years of operation.  
Through poverty alleviation and quality education  
HHA have had a profound impact on hundreds  
of lives and it has been a joy to receive updates  
of continued expansion and impact in the face  
of such complex problems. Individual lives and  
communities are being transformed and we are  
proud to be doing what we can to support this  
great work.”*

***BEN, CEO AND FOUNDER OF GREENROOM STRATEGIC***



## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

*This year we have run several small fundraising events in Canberra.*

**Our Bunnings BBQ's raised nearly \$8,000.**

We love these events because not only do they allow us to raise much needed funds, but our volunteers gather as a community, spending time giving to a shared vision. Thank you for your generous donation of time to help make a difference in the lives of others.

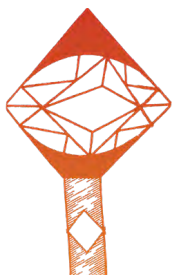
### **Lolendo Collections**

Lolendo Collections is our social enterprise with a vision to make both local and global impact by promoting culture for an equitable world.

We promote culture locally through our African inspired, handmade, quality, and unique products made available for our local community to purchase and wear with pride, being a part of the impact of our work. The sale of these items over our summer period were significant, and is providing a revenue stream to support the work of Harvest Hope Africa.

*Lolendo*  
COLLECTIONS

**CLICK HERE TO CHECK OUT OUR INSTAGRAM!**



# *Economic* **INDEPENDENCE GAINED**







*Continue the food program*



*Continue to train students*



*More playground equipment*



*Provide further toilets*



*Another classroom like this*

# THE YEAR AHEAD

## IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

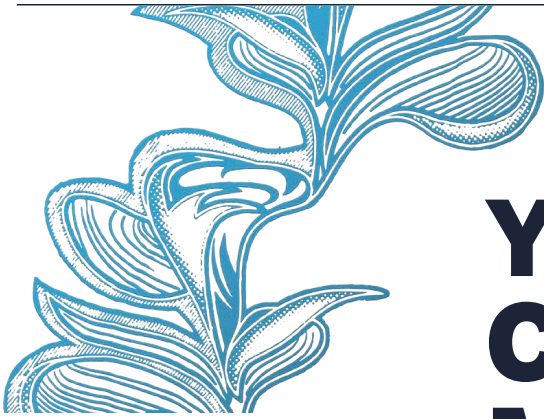
The success and value of our programs in the Democratic Republic of Congo have proven apparent. Our priority in the year ahead will be to:

- ◆ Continue the food program throughout the course
- ◆ Provide psychological therapy for the first 6 months of each intake of students
- ◆ Graduate our fourth cohort of students
- ◆ Train students from the fifth intake
- ◆ Provide machine sewing kits to all graduating students
- ◆ Continue to provide mentoring and resources to the participants of the sewing co-operative
- ◆ Continue to support High School sponsored students who are too young to enter our sewing training
- ◆ Continue to support our University sponsored students who have demonstrated leadership potential
- ◆ Test the viability of offering a hospitality course in Goma

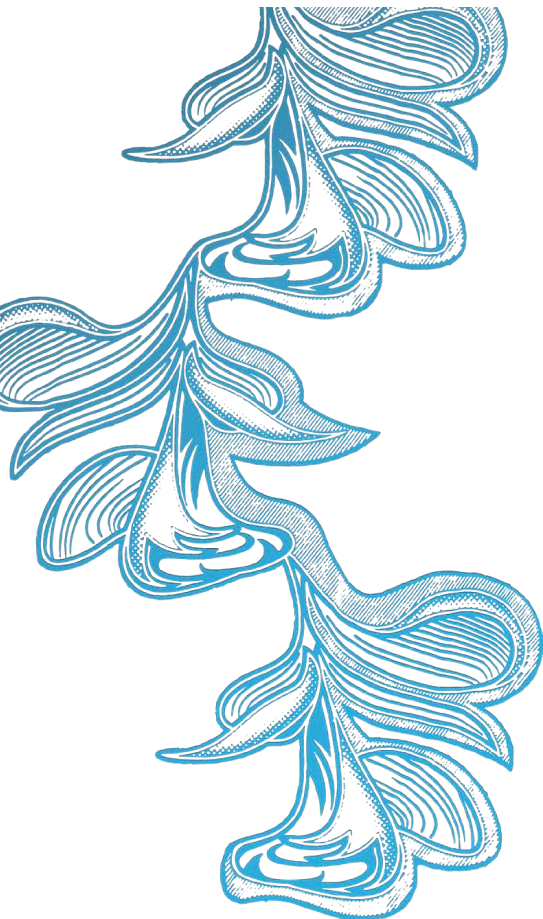
## IN TANZANIA

The Primary School in Tanzania has a plethora of opportunities. Our priority will be to:

- ◆ Provide further toilets for staff
- ◆ Continue to provide regular wages for staff
- ◆ Add further playground equipment
- ◆ Begin an environmental development program. This involves planting avocado trees. They will not only increase shade for the students during the extremely hot, dry summers, they will also provide fruit for the children to eat and a source of revenue for the school.
- ◆ Focus on other capital building projects, including updating the kitchen and adding a second classroom



***Thank you for investing in our vision to bring hope and restoration through equipping, transforming and empowering vulnerable people. Your donations are making this vision a reality.***



# YOUR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS MAKE OUR WORK POSSIBLE

## MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

What an incredibly exciting time for Harvest Hope Africa. We have been overwhelmed with the financial contributions from our community during challenging global times, allowing us to take significant steps forward to transform the lives of those in remote communities of Africa.

This fiscal year we raised finances beyond our target and thank our donors for making that possible. As a result, we met our regular commitments, and were able to improve our programs in Africa.

Our work is continued to be done solely by volunteers in Australia. Ongoing administration costs are kept to a minimum, and these costs are covered by select donors who have agreed to do so. This has allowed 100% of all other donations to go to the field. In Africa we have a core team of employees and many more volunteers that give generously of their time to make our programs possible.

To our committed donors, on behalf of our board and all the vulnerable people we help, I express our gratitude. Thank you for investing in our vision to bring hope and restoration through equipping, transforming and empowering vulnerable people. Your donations are making this vision a reality.

**Deniszimba**  
*Treasurer*





*Joining our social media platforms*



*Signing up to receive our regular news*



*Donating financially regularly or as a once off*



*Becoming a corporate partner*



*Donate your time by volunteering at fundraising events*



*Volunteering professional expertise*



*Invite us to come and speak at your community group*



*Leave a gift in your will*

# HOW YOU CAN *Help*

## CONTACT DETAILS

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**Jamison Centre ACT 2614**

[www.harvesthopeafrica.org.au](http://www.harvesthopeafrica.org.au)



**Facebook**

/harvesthopeafrica



**Instagram**

@harvesthopeafrica



**LinkedIn**

/company/harvest-hope-africa



**Linktree**

/harvesthopeafrica